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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/532,692	01/03/2006	Hiroaki Koyama	CSP-114-A	2670
21828 7590 03/20/2007 CARRIER BLACKMAN AND ASSOCIATES 24101 NOVI ROAD SUITE 100 NOVI, MI 48375			EXAMINER LIN, ING HOUR	
			ART UNIT 1725	PAPER NUMBER
SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE		MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE	
3 MONTHS		03/20/2007	PAPER	

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/532,692

Applicant(s)

KOYAMA ET AL.

Examiner

Ing-Hour Lin

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 29 December 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1 and 3-12 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1 and 3-12 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
- ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

3. Claims 1 and 3-4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over either Komatsu et al or Horvath in view of Kumpula.

Komatsu et al (col. 1, lines 56+) substantially teaches the claimed die and the method of manufacturing the casting die, comprising the use of a gate 5 and a die main body (core pin 4) of an anneal alloy tool steel (SKD 61) having a wall surface for defining a bend or curved mold cavity and a cavity forming member or an insert (a metal carbide layer) disposed or embedded on the main body. Horvath (col. 3, lines 1+) substantially teaches the claimed die and the method of manufacturing the casting die, comprising the use of a gate 14 and die main body (steel mounting blocks 16,17) of air hardened or high speed steel, or equivalent to steel (SKD 61)

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having a wall surface for defining a mold cavity and a cavity forming member or an insert (carbide inserts 19, 20) disposed or embedded on the main body. Either Komatsu et al or Horvath fails to teach the use of better steel for the insert.

However, Kumpula (col. 2, lines 62+) teaches the use of better steel such as maraging steel served as material of mold or die parts (inserts) for the purpose of effectively improving the thermal stability and mechanical properties of the die parts. It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art to provide either Komatsu et al or Horvath the use of better steel for the insert as taught by Kumpula in order to effectively reduce the hot corrosion and stress impact due to the casting molten aluminum.

4. Claims 5-12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over either Komatsu et al or Horvath in view of Kumpula and further in view of White et al.

Either Komatsu et al or Horvath in view of Kumpula fails to teach the use of welding in depositing the maraging steel as insert.

However, White et al (col. 2, lines 15+) teach the maraging steels can be sprayed or formed into tool parts by arc-welding for the purpose of effectively producing tool parts without using machining method, wherein the maraging steels are well been hardened and difficult to be machined. It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art to provide either Komatsu et al or Horvath in view of Kumpula the use of welding method as taught by White et al in order to effectively to form insert on the mold surface the die main body.

Response to Arguments

5. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1 and 3-12 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

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6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ing-Hour Lin whose telephone number is (571) 272-1180. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F (9:00-5:30).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Pat Ryan can be reached on 571-272-1292. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

IHL

I.-H. Lin

3-16-07

KEVIN KERNS
PRIMARY EXAMINER

Kevin Kerns 3/16/07